

117TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 7939

To make permanent certain educational assistance benefits under the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs in the case of changes to courses of education by reason of emergency situations, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 3, 2022

Mr. LEVIN of California (for himself and Ms. MACE) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, and in addition to the Committees on Armed Services, and the Budget, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

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## A BILL

To make permanent certain educational assistance benefits under the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs in the case of changes to courses of education by reason of emergency situations, and for other purposes.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3       **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

4       (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the  
5       “Student Veteran Emergency Relief Act of 2022”.

1           (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for  
2 this Act is as follows:

See. 1. Short title; table of contents.  
Sec. 2. Educational assistance benefits during emergency situations.  
Sec. 3. Extension of time limitations for use of entitlement.  
Sec. 4. Extension of payment of vocational rehabilitation subsistence allowances.  
Sec. 5. Payment of work-study allowances during emergency situations.  
Sec. 6. Payment of allowances to veterans enrolled in educational institutions closed for emergency situations.  
Sec. 7. Apprenticeship or on-job training requirements.  
Sec. 8. Prohibition of charge to entitlement of students unable to pursue a program of education due to an emergency situation.  
See. 9. Emergency designations.

3 **SEC. 2. EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE BENEFITS DURING**  
4 **EMERGENCY SITUATIONS.**

5           (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 36 of title 38, United  
6 States Code, is amended—

7                 (1) by redesignating subchapters I and II as  
8 subchapters II and III, respectively; and  
9                 (2) by inserting before subchapter II, as so re-  
10 designated, the following new subchapter:

11          “SUBCHAPTER I—EMERGENCY SITUATIONS

12          **“§ 3601. Definition of emergency situation**

13          “In this chapter, the term ‘emergency situation’  
14 means a situation that—

15                 “(1) the President declares is an emergency;  
16 and

17                 “(2) the Secretary determines is an emergency  
18 for purposes of the laws administered by the Sec-  
19 retary.

1     **“§ 3602. Continuation of educational assistance bene-**  
2                         **fits during emergency situations**

3         “(a) AUTHORITY.—If the Secretary determines under  
4 subsection (c) that an individual is negatively affected by  
5 an emergency situation, the Secretary may provide edu-  
6 cational assistance to that individual under the laws ad-  
7 ministered by the Secretary as if such negative effects did  
8 not occur. The authority under this section is in addition  
9 to the other authorities of the Secretary to provide benefits  
10 in emergency situations, but in no case may the Secretary  
11 provide more than a total of four weeks of additional edu-  
12 cational assistance by reason of any other such authority  
13 and this section.

14         “(b) HOUSING AND ALLOWANCES.—In providing  
15 educational assistance to an individual pursuant to sub-  
16 section (a), the Secretary may—

17                 “(1) continue to pay a monthly housing stipend  
18                 under chapter 33 of this title, during a month the  
19                 individual would have been enrolled in a program of  
20                 education or training but for the emergency situa-  
21                 tion at the same rate such stipend would have been  
22                 payable if the individual had not been negatively af-  
23                 fected by the emergency situation, except that the  
24                 total number of weeks for which stipends may con-  
25                 tinue to be so payable may not exceed four weeks;  
26                 and

1           “(2) continue to pay payments or subsistence  
2 allowances under chapters 30, 31, 32, 33, and 35 of  
3 this title and chapter 1606 of title 10 during a  
4 month for a period of time that the individual would  
5 have been enrolled in a program of education or  
6 training but for the emergency situation, except that  
7 the total number of weeks for which payments or al-  
8 lowances may continue to be so payable may not ex-  
9 ceed four weeks.

10         “(c) DETERMINATION OF NEGATIVE EFFECTS.—The  
11 Secretary shall determine that an individual was nega-  
12 tively affected by an emergency situation if—

13           “(1) the individual is enrolled in a covered pro-  
14 gram of education of an educational institution or  
15 enrolled in training at a training establishment and  
16 is pursuing such program or training using edu-  
17 cational assistance under the laws administered by  
18 the Secretary;

19           “(2) the educational institution or training es-  
20 tablishment certifies to the Secretary that such pro-  
21 gram or training is truncated, delayed, relocated,  
22 canceled, partially canceled, converted from being  
23 on-site to being offered by distance learning, or oth-  
24 erwise modified or made unavailable by reason of the  
25 emergency situation; and

1           “(3) the Secretary determines that the modi-  
2       fication to such program or training specified under  
3       paragraph (2) would reduce the amount of edu-  
4       cational assistance (including with respect to month-  
5       ly housing stipends, payments, or subsistence allow-  
6       ances) that would be payable to the individual but  
7       for the emergency situation.

8           “(d) EFFECT ON ENTITLEMENT PERIOD.—If the  
9       Secretary determines that an individual who received as-  
10      sistance under this section did not make progress toward  
11      the completion of the program of education in which the  
12      individual is enrolled during the period for which the indi-  
13      vidual received such assistance, any assistance provided  
14      pursuant to this section shall not be counted for purposes  
15      of determining the total amount of an individual’s entitle-  
16      ment to educational assistance, housing stipends, or pay-  
17      ments or subsistence allowances under chapters 30, 31,  
18      32, and 35 of this title and chapter 1606 of title 10.

19       **“§ 3603. Continuation of educational assistance bene-**  
20           **fits for certain programs of education**  
21           **converted to distance learning by reason**  
22           **of emergency situations**

23           “In the case of a program of education approved by  
24      a State approving agency, or the Secretary when acting  
25      in the role of a State approving agency, that is converted

1 from being offered on-site at an educational institution or  
2 training establishment to being offered by distance learn-  
3 ing by reason of an emergency or health-related situation,  
4 as determined by the Secretary, the Secretary may con-  
5 tinue to provide educational assistance under the laws ad-  
6 ministered by the Secretary without regard to such conver-  
7 sion, including with respect to paying any—

8           “(1) monthly housing stipends under chapter  
9           33 of this title; or

10          “(2) payments or subsistence allowances under  
11        chapters 30, 31, 32, and 35 of this title and chap-  
12        ters 1606 and 1607 of title 10.

13 **“§ 3604. Effects of closure of educational institution  
14           and modification of courses by reason of  
15           emergency situation”**

16          “(a) CLOSURE OR DISAPPROVAL.—Any payment of  
17        educational assistance described in subsection (b) shall  
18        not—

19           “(1) be charged against any entitlement to edu-  
20        cational assistance of the individual concerned; or

21           “(2) be counted against the aggregate period  
22        for which section 3695 of this title limits the receipt  
23        of educational assistance by such individual.

24          “(b) EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE DESCRIBED.—Sub-  
25        ject to subsection (d), the payment of educational assist-

1       ance described in this subsection is the payment of such  
2       assistance to an individual for pursuit of a course or pro-  
3       gram of education at an educational institution under  
4       chapter 30, 31, 32, 33, or 35 of this title or chapter 1606  
5       of title 10, if the Secretary determines that the indi-  
6       vidual—

7               “(1) was unable to complete such course or pro-  
8       gram as a result of—

9                       “(A) the closure of the educational institu-  
10       tion, or the full or partial cancellation of a  
11       course or program of education, by reason of an  
12       emergency situation; or

13                       “(B) the disapproval of the course or a  
14       course that is a necessary part of that program  
15       under this chapter because the course was  
16       modified by reason of such emergency; and

17                       “(2) did not receive credit or lost training time,  
18       toward completion of the program of education being  
19       so pursued.

20               “(c) HOUSING ASSISTANCE.—In this section, edu-  
21       cational assistance includes, as applicable—

22                       “(1) monthly housing stipends payable under  
23       chapter 33 of this title for any month the individual  
24       would have been enrolled in a course or program of  
25       education; and

1           “(2) payments or subsistence allowances under  
2       chapters 30, 31, 32, and 35 of this title and chapter  
3       1606 of title 10 during a month the individual would  
4       have been enrolled in a course or program of edu-  
5       cation.

6           “(d) PERIOD NOT CHARGED.—The period for which,  
7       by reason of this section, educational assistance is not  
8       charged against entitlement or counted toward the appli-  
9       cable aggregate period under section 3695 of this title  
10      shall not exceed the aggregate of—

11          “(1) the portion of the period of enrollment in  
12       the course from which the individual did not receive  
13       credit or with respect to which the individual lost  
14       training time, as determined under subsection  
15       (b)(2); and

16          “(2) the period by which a monthly stipend is  
17       extended under section 3680(a)(2)(B) of this title.

18          “(e) CONTINUING PURSUIT OF DISAPPROVED  
19 COURSES.—(1) The Secretary may treat a course of edu-  
20 cation that is disapproved under this chapter as being ap-  
21 proved under this chapter with respect to an individual  
22 described in paragraph (2) if the Secretary determines,  
23 on a programmatic basis, that—

24          “(A) such disapproval is the result of an action  
25       described in subsection (b)(1)(B); and

1           “(B) continuing pursuing such course is in the  
2       best interest of the individual.

3           “(2) An individual described in this paragraph is an  
4       individual who is pursuing a course of education at an  
5       educational institution under chapter 30, 31, 32, 33, or  
6       35 of this title or chapter 1606 of title 10, as of the date  
7       on which the course is disapproved as described in sub-  
8       section (b)(1)(B).

9           “(f) STATUS AS FULL-TIME STUDENT FOR PUR-  
10      POSES OF HOUSING STIPEND CALCULATION.—In the case  
11      of an individual who, as of the first day of an emergency  
12      situation was enrolled on a full-time basis in a program  
13      of education and was receiving educational assistance  
14      under chapter 33 of this title or subsistence allowance  
15      under chapter 31 of this title, and for whom the Secretary  
16      makes a determination under subsection (b), the indi-  
17      vidual shall be treated as an individual enrolled in a pro-  
18      gram of education on a full-time basis for the purpose of  
19      calculating monthly housing stipends payable under chap-  
20      ter 33 of this title, or subsistence allowance payable under  
21      chapter 31 of this title, for any month the individual is  
22      enrolled in the program of education on a part-time basis  
23      to complete any course of education that was partially or  
24      fully canceled by reason of the emergency situation.

1        “(g) NOTICE OF CLOSURES.—Not later than 5 busi-  
2 ness days after the date on which the Secretary receives  
3 notice that an educational institution will close or is closed  
4 by reason of an emergency situation, the Secretary shall  
5 provide to each individual who is enrolled in a course or  
6 program of education at such educational institution using  
7 entitlement to educational assistance under chapter 30,  
8 31, 32, 33, or 35 of this title, or chapter 1606 of title  
9 10 notice of—

10            “(1) such closure and the date of such closure;  
11            and

12            “(2) the effect of such closure on the individ-  
13 ual’s entitlement to educational assistance pursuant  
14 to this section.

15 **“§ 3605. Payment of educational assistance in cases of  
16 withdrawal**

17            “(a) IN GENERAL.—In the case of any individual who  
18 withdraws from a program of education or training, other  
19 than a program by correspondence, in an educational in-  
20 stitution under chapter 31, 34, or 35 of this title for a  
21 covered reason during the period of an emergency situa-  
22 tion, the Secretary shall find mitigating circumstances for  
23 purposes of section 3680(a)(1)(C)(ii) of this title.

1       “(b) COVERED REASON.—In this section, the term  
2 ‘covered reason’ means any reason related to an emer-  
3 gency situation, including—

4           “(1) illness, quarantine, or social distancing re-  
5 quirements;

6           “(2) issues associated with accessibility;

7           “(3) access or availability of childcare;

8           “(4) providing care for a family member or co-  
9 habitants;

10          “(5) change of location or residence due to the  
11 emergency situation or associated school closures;

12          “(6) employment changes or financial hardship;

13          and

14          “(7) issues associated with changes in format  
15 or medium of instruction.”.

16       (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections  
17 at the beginning of such chapter is amended—

18           (1) by striking the item relating to subchapter  
19 II and inserting the following new item:

“SUBCHAPTER III—MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS”;

20           (2) by striking the item relating to subchapter  
21 I and inserting the following new item:

“SUBCHAPTER II—STATE APPROVING AGENCIES”;

22          and

23           (3) by inserting before the item relating to sub-  
24 chapter II the following new items:

## “SUBCHAPTER I—EMERGENCY SITUATIONS

- “3601. Definition of emergency situation.
- “3602. Continuation of educational assistance benefits during emergency situations.
- “3603. Continuation of educational assistance benefits for certain programs of education converted to distance learning by reason of emergency situations.
- “3604. Effects of closure of educational institution and modification of courses by reason of emergency situation.
- “3605. Payment of educational assistance in cases of withdrawal.”.

1       (c) CONFORMING REPEALS.—The following provi-  
2 sions of law are repealed:

3                 (1) Sections 1102, 1103, and 1104 of the John-  
4 ny Isakson and David P. Roe, M.D. Veterans Health  
5 Care and Benefits Improvement Act of 2020 (Public  
6 Law 116–315).

7                 (2) Public Law 116–128.

8 **SEC. 3. EXTENSION OF TIME LIMITATIONS FOR USE OF EN-**  
9 **TITLEMENT.**

10       (a) MONTGOMERY GI BILL.—Section 3031 of title  
11 38, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end  
12 the following new subsection:

13                 “(i) In the case of an individual eligible for edu-  
14 cational assistance under this chapter who is prevented  
15 from pursuing the individual’s chosen program of edu-  
16 cation before the expiration of the 10-year period for the  
17 use of entitlement under this chapter otherwise applicable  
18 under this section because the educational institution or  
19 training establishment closed (temporarily or perma-  
20 nently) under an established policy based on an Executive

1 order of the President or due to an emergency situation,  
2 such 10-year period—

3               “(1) shall not run during the period the individual  
4               is so prevented from pursuing such program;  
5               and

6               “(2) shall again begin running on the first day  
7               after the individual is able to resume pursuit of a  
8               program of education with educational assistance  
9               under this chapter.”.

10             (b) POST-9/11 EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE.—

11             (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 3321(b)(1) of such  
12             title is amended—

13               (A) by inserting “(A)” before “Sub-  
14             sections”; and

15               (B) by striking “and (d)” and inserting  
16             “(d), and (i)”; and by adding at the end the fol-  
17             lowing new subparagraph:

18               “(B) Subsection (i) of section 3031 shall apply  
19             with respect to the running of the 15-year period de-  
20             scribed in paragraphs (4)(A) and (5)(A) of this sub-  
21             section in the same manner as such subsection ap-  
22             plies under section 3031 with respect to the running  
23             of the 10-year period described in section 3031(a).”.

24             (2) TRANSFER PERIOD.—Section 3319(h)(5) of  
25             such title is amended—

1                             (A) in subparagraph (A) by inserting “or  
2                             (C)” after “subparagraph (B)”; and

3                             (B) by adding at the end the following new  
4                             subparagraph:

5                             “(C) EMERGENCY SITUATIONS.—In any  
6                             case in which the Secretary determines that an  
7                             individual to whom entitlement is transferred  
8                             under this section has been prevented from pur-  
9                             suing the individual’s chosen program of edu-  
10                             cation before the individual attains the age of  
11                             26 years because the educational institution or  
12                             training establishment closed (temporarily or  
13                             permanently) under an established policy based  
14                             on an Executive order of the President or due  
15                             to an emergency situation, the Secretary shall  
16                             extend the period during which the individual  
17                             may use such entitlement for a period equal to  
18                             the number of months that the individual was  
19                             so prevented from pursuing the program of  
20                             education, as determined by the Secretary.”.

21                             (c) VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION AND TRAINING.—

22                             (1) PERIOD FOR USE.—Section 3103 of such  
23                             title is amended—

24                             (A) in subsection (a), by striking “or (e)”  
25                             and inserting “(e), or (g)”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following new subsection:

3       “(h) In any case in which the Secretary determines  
4 that a veteran has been prevented from participating in  
5 a vocational rehabilitation program under this chapter  
6 within the twelve-year period of eligibility prescribed in  
7 subsection (a) due to an emergency situation, such twelve-  
8 year period—

9               “(1) shall not run during the period the indi-  
10      vidual is so prevented from participating such pro-  
11      gram; and

12               “(2) shall again begin running on the first day  
13               after the individual is able to resume participation in  
14               such program.”.

20 (B) by adding at the end the following new  
21 paragraph:

22       “(3)(A) In any case in which the Secretary deter-  
23 mines that a veteran has been prevented from partici-  
24 pating in counseling and placement and postplacement  
25 services described in section 3104(a)(2) and (5) of this

1 title due to an emergency situation, the Secretary shall  
2 extend the period during which the Secretary may provide  
3 such counseling and placement and postplacement services  
4 for the veteran for a period equal to the number of months  
5 that the veteran was so prevented from participating in  
6 such counseling and services, as determined by the Sec-  
7 retary.

8       “(B) In any case in which the Secretary determines  
9 that a veteran has been prevented from participating in  
10 a vocational rehabilitation program under this chapter due  
11 to an emergency situation, the Secretary shall extend the  
12 period of the veteran’s vocational rehabilitation program  
13 for a period equal to the number of months that the vet-  
14 eran was so prevented from participating in the vocational  
15 rehabilitation program, as determined by the Secretary.”.

16       (d) EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE FOR MEMBERS OF  
17 THE SELECTED RESERVE.—Section 16133(b) of title 10,  
18 United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the  
19 following new paragraph:

20           “(5) In any case in which the Secretary con-  
21 cerned determines that a person entitled to edu-  
22 cational assistance under this chapter has been pre-  
23 vented from using such person’s entitlement due to  
24 an emergency situation, the Secretary concerned  
25 shall extend the period of entitlement prescribed in

1 subsection (a) for a period equal to the number of  
2 months that the person was so prevented from using  
3 such entitlement, as determined by the Secretary.”.

4 (e) EMERGENCY SITUATION DEFINED.—

5 (1) POST-9/11 EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE PRO-  
6 GRAM.—Section 3301 of title 38, United States  
7 Code, is amended by adding at the end the following  
8 new paragraph:

9 “(5) The term ‘emergency situation’ has the  
10 meaning given such term in section 3601 of this  
11 title.”.

12 (2) MGIB.—Section 3002 of such title is  
13 amended by adding at the end the following new  
14 paragraph:

15 “(9) The term ‘emergency situation’ has the  
16 meaning given such term in section 3601 of this  
17 title.”.

18 (3) VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION AND TRAIN-  
19 ING.—Section 3101 of such title is amended by add-  
20 ing at the end the following new paragraph:

21 “(10) The term ‘emergency situation’ has the  
22 meaning given such term in section 3601 of this  
23 title.”.

24 (4) EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE FOR MEMBERS  
25 OF THE SELECTED RESERVE.—Section 16133 of

1 title 10, United States Code, is amended by adding  
2 at the end the following new subsection:

3 “(c) The term ‘emergency situation’ has the meaning  
4 given such term in section 3601 of title 38.”.

5 (f) CONFORMING REPEAL.—Section 6 of the Student  
6 Veteran Coronavirus Response Act of 2020 (Public Law  
7 116–140) is repealed.

8 **SEC. 4. EXTENSION OF PAYMENT OF VOCATIONAL REHA-**  
9 **BILITATION SUBSISTENCE ALLOWANCES.**

10 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 3104 of title 38, United  
11 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-  
12 lowing new subsection:

13 “(f) In the case of any veteran whom the Secretary  
14 of Veterans Affairs determines is satisfactorily following  
15 a program of employment services provided under sub-  
16 section (a)(5) during the period of an emergency situation,  
17 the Secretary may pay the veteran a subsistence allow-  
18 ance, as prescribed in section 3108 of this title for full-  
19 time training for the type of program that the veteran was  
20 pursuing, for two additional months, if the Secretary de-  
21 termines that the veteran is negatively affected by the  
22 emergency situation.”.

23 (b) CONFORMING REPEAL.—Section 8 of the Student  
24 Veteran Coronavirus Response Act of 2020 (Public Law  
25 116–140) is repealed.

1   **SEC. 5. PAYMENT OF WORK-STUDY ALLOWANCES DURING**2                   **EMERGENCY SITUATIONS.**

3                 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 3485 of title 38, United  
4 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-  
5 lowing new subsection:

6                 “(f)(1) In case of an individual who is in receipt of  
7 work-study allowance pursuant to an agreement described  
8 in subsection (a)(3) as of the date on which an emergency  
9 situation occurs and who is unable to continue to perform  
10 qualifying work-study activities described in subsection  
11 (a)(4) by reason of the emergency situation—

12                 “(A) the Secretary may continue to pay work-  
13 study allowance under this section or make deduc-  
14 tions described in subsection (e)(1) during the pe-  
15 riod of such emergency situation, notwithstanding  
16 the inability of the individual to perform such work-  
17 study activities by reason of such emergency situa-  
18 tion; and

19                 “(B) at the option of the individual, the Sec-  
20 retary shall extend the agreement described in sub-  
21 section (a)(3) with the individual for any subsequent  
22 period of enrollment initiated during the emergency  
23 situation, notwithstanding the inability of the indi-  
24 vidual to perform work-study activities described in  
25 subsection (a)(4) by reason of such emergency situa-  
26 tion.

“(2) The amount of work-study allowance payable to an individual under paragraph (1)(A) during the period of an emergency situation shall be an amount determined by the Secretary but may not exceed the amount that would be payable under subsection (a)(2) if the individual worked 25 hours per week paid during such period.

7        “(3) The term ‘emergency situation’ has the meaning  
8 given that term in section 3601 of this title.”.

(b) CONFORMING REPEAL.—Section 3 of the Student Veteran Coronavirus Response Act of 2020 (Public Law 116–140) is repealed.

12 SEC. 6. PAYMENT OF ALLOWANCES TO VETERANS EN-  
13 ROLLED IN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS  
14 CLOSED FOR EMERGENCY SITUATIONS.

15       (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 3680 of title 38, United  
16 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-  
17 lowing new subsection:

18        "(h) PAYMENTS DURING EMERGENCY SITU-  
19 TIONS.—(1) The Secretary may pay allowances to an eligi-  
20 ble veteran or eligible person under subsection (a)(2)(A),  
21 if the veteran or person is enrolled in a program or course  
22 of education that—

23               “(A) is provided by an educational institution  
24       or training establishment that is closed by reason of  
25       an emergency situation; or

1           “(B) is suspended by reason of an emergency  
2        situation.

3           “(2) The total number of weeks for which allowances  
4        may be paid by reason of this subsection may not exceed  
5        four weeks.

6           “(3) Any amount paid under this subsection shall not  
7        be counted for purposes of the limitation on allowances  
8        under subsection (a)(2)(A).”.

9           (b) CONFORMING REPEAL.—Section 4 of the Student  
10      Veteran Coronavirus Response Act of 2020 (Public Law  
11      116–140) is repealed.

12 **SEC. 7. APPRENTICESHIP OR ON-JOB TRAINING REQUIRE-  
13           MENTS.**

14           (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 3687(e) of title 38,  
15      United States Code, is amended by striking paragraph (2)  
16      and inserting the following new paragraph (2):

17           “(2)(A) Subject to subparagraphs (B) and (C), for  
18      any month in which an individual fails to complete 120  
19      hours of training, the entitlement otherwise chargeable  
20      under paragraph (1) shall be reduced in the same propor-  
21      tion as the monthly training assistance allowance payable  
22      is reduced under subsection (b)(3).

23           “(B) In the case of an individual who is unemployed  
24      by reason of an emergency situation during any month,  
25      the 120-hour requirement under subparagraph (A) for

1 that month shall be reduced proportionately to reflect the  
2 individual's period of unemployment, except that the  
3 amount of monthly training assistance otherwise payable  
4 to the individual under subsection (b)(3) shall not be re-  
5 duced.

6       “(C) Any period during which an individual is unem-  
7 ployed by reason of an emergency situation shall not—

8           “(i) be charged against any entitlement to edu-  
9 cational assistance of the individual; or  
10          “(ii) be counted against the aggregate period  
11 for which section 3695 of this title limits the receipt  
12 of educational assistance by such individual.

13       “(D) Any amount by which the entitlement of an in-  
14 dividual is reduced under subparagraph (A) shall not—

15           “(i) be charged against any entitlement to edu-  
16 cational assistance of the individual; or  
17          “(ii) be counted against the aggregate period  
18 for which section 3695 of this title limits the receipt  
19 of educational assistance by such individual.

20       “(E) In the case of an individual who fails to com-  
21 plete 120 hours of training during a month, but who com-  
22 pleted more than 120 hours of training during the pre-  
23 ceding month, the individual may apply the number of  
24 hours in excess of 120 that the individual completed for  
25 that month to the month for which the individual failed

1 to complete 120 hours. If the addition of such excess hours  
2 results in a total of 120 hours or more, the individual shall  
3 be treated as an individual who has completed 120 hours  
4 of training for that month. Any excess hours applied to  
5 a different month under this subparagraph may only be  
6 applied to one such month.

7       “(F) This paragraph applies to amounts described in  
8 section 3313(g)(3)(B)(iv) and section 3032(e)(2) of this  
9 title and section 16131(d)(2) of title 10.

10      “(G) In this paragraph:

11           “(i) The term ‘unemployed’ includes being fur-  
12 loughed or being scheduled to work zero hours.

13           “(ii) The term ‘fails to complete 120 hours of  
14 training’ means, with respect to an individual, that  
15 during any month, the individual completes at least  
16 one hour, but fewer than 120 hours, of training, in-  
17 cluding in a case in which the individual is unem-  
18 ployed for part of, but not the whole, month.”.

19      (b) CONFORMING REPEAL.—Section 1106 of the  
20 Johnny Isakson and David P. Roe, M.D. Veterans Health  
21 Care and Benefits Improvement Act of 2020 (Public Law  
22 116–315) is repealed.

1   **SEC. 8. PROHIBITION OF CHARGE TO ENTITLEMENT OF**  
2                   **STUDENTS UNABLE TO PURSUE A PROGRAM**  
3                   **OF EDUCATION DUE TO AN EMERGENCY SIT-**  
4                   **UATION.**

5       (a)      PERMANENT      APPLICABILITY.—Section  
6    3699(b)(1) of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

7                  (1) in subparagraph (A), by striking “or” at  
8    the end;

9                  (2) in subparagraph (B)(ii), by striking “and”  
10   at the end and inserting “or”; and

11                 (3) by adding at the end the following new sub-  
12   paragraph:

13                 “(C) the temporary closure of an edu-  
14    cational institution or training establishment or  
15    the temporary closure or termination of a  
16    course or program of education by reason of an  
17    emergency situation; and”.

18       (b) CONFORMING REPEAL.—Section 5 of the Student  
19    Veteran Coronavirus Response Act of 2020 (Public Law  
20    116–140) is repealed.

21   **SEC. 9. EMERGENCY DESIGNATIONS.**

22       (a) IN GENERAL.—This Act is designated as an  
23    emergency requirement pursuant to section 4(g) of the  
24    Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (2 U.S.C. 933(g)).

25       (b) DESIGNATION IN SENATE.—In the Senate, this  
26    Act is designated as an emergency requirement pursuant

- 1 to section 4112(a) of H. Con. Res. 71 (115th Congress),
- 2 the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year
- 3 2018.

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